

SCHRADE
KNIVES AND TOOLS

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SCHRADE'S
Classic Whittlin' Techniques



INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You are now the owner of Schrade's Whittling Kit. This kit contains all you need to get started—a knife, basswood, sharpening stone and oil. Welcome to the wonderful world of whittling.

Before you begin your "Whittling quest," we strongly suggest that you read this guide thoroughly. It contains not only interesting facts about whittling, but includes important safety instructions, knife care tips, the history of Schrade, and even a whittling project!

Please remember that the enclosed Schrade knife (like most knives and tools) is extremely sharp and must be handled with care, and with the proper amount of supervision when necessary.

REMEMBER – SAFETY ALWAYS COMES FIRST!

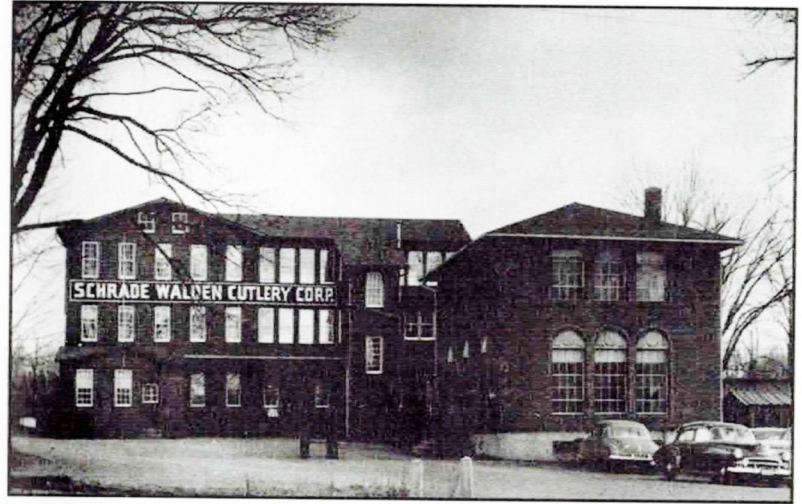
Thank you for buying Schrade products and now it's time to "Get Whittling"!

For more information about Schrade and Schrade products, visit our website www.schradeknives.com.

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HISTORY OF SCHRADE



Schrade Cutlery Company was founded in 1904 in Walden, New York, producing quality knives that were unique to the industry at that time. Imperial Knife Company was established in 1916 in Providence, Rhode Island and grew to manufacture a full range of value-priced folding pocket knives.

In 1941, Albert M. Baer purchased the Ulster Knife Company—a knife company that was founded in Ellenville, New York in the 1870s. In 1942 the Ulster Knife Company joined forces with Imperial Knife to become Imperial Knife Associated Companies. Imperial Knife Associated Companies committed themselves to producing knives for the military throughout World War II. Today, Schrade knives still proudly carry an American flag and the bold banner “Made in the U.S.A.”

One of the most identifiable figures in the public growth of the company was Albert Baer’s brother, Henry Baer, who joined the company in 1942. It is he who the Schrade *Uncle Henry* line is named after. The two brothers made such a mark in the knife industry that both were inducted into the Cutlery Hall of Fame, Henry in 1983 and Albert in 1992.

Albert M. Baer purchased Schrade Cutlery Company in 1946, renaming it Schrade Walden Cutlery Corporation, which became a division of Imperial Knife Associated Companies. The Schrade Walden Cutlery Corporation was then moved to Ellenville, New York in 1958.

Imperial experienced a strong growth through the late 1970s and as it entered the 80s, a consolidation took place.

The name of the company was changed to Imperial Schrade Corp in 1985 and all aspects of the company’s U.S. operation were combined under one roof in Ellenville, New York.

In the 90s, Schrade led the way in the knife and cutting tool category. With new products such as Cliphanger, Outback, Old Timer, Safe-T-Grip, Switch-It and the award-winning Schrade Tough Tool, Schrade continued to strengthen its position as the #1 brand in the industry.

As Schrade enters the new millennium, it will celebrate its 100th year of operation in 2004. As Schrade approaches 100, it continues to develop new, exciting products such as the Avatar, the D’Holder series, X-Timer, as well as the award-winning i-Quip and Navitool survival tools. Schrade also remains committed to outdoor education (particularly for young people) and environmental conservation, contributing to and working with many local and national organizations.

SAFE USE AND CARE OF YOUR KNIFE

Only the finest materials are used in Schrade knives. They are sharp cutting instruments and should be used only with respect and care.

USE:

- Your Schrade knife should be used only as a cutting tool.
- Improper use can cause serious injury.

CARE:

- Keep your knife sharp and clean. Sharp blades cut easier and safer.
- Always keep your blade clean and dry. Perspiration and fingerprints are a major cause of discoloration and staining on knives.
- When cleaning, do not use harmful material that may cause damage to your knife.
- Your knife has high carbon stainless steel blades. These blades are made of specially alloyed steel resistant to stain, rust or corrosion.
- To insure continued "like new appearance" and minimize staining, wipe all blades with light oil (oil provided in kit).
- Oil pivot pins and joints regularly to ensure smooth operation of knife.



NEVER:

- Throw your knife.
- Hammer on your knife.
- Use your knife as a screwdriver or chisel.
- Use a power-driven grinding wheel to sharpen your knife – use the sharpening stone provided in kit.
- Expose knives to extreme heat or fire.
- Clean knives in corrosive substances.

SHARPENING YOUR KNIFE:

- Use sharpening stone provided in kit.
- Apply oil to the stone.
- Place the blade on the stone and raise the back of the blade to 10-15 degree angle.
- Move the knife in a small circle, figure eights or whatever motion works best for you until you have honed the entire length of the cutting edge.
- Repeat on opposite side of blade.
- Position your knife as if you are going to cut off a thin slice of the stone, using less and less pressure, on the fine grit side of stone.

HISTORY OF WHITTTLING

The dictionary defines whittling as cutting bits or shavings from a piece of wood, or cutting and shaping wood with a knife.

No one can pinpoint an exact date when whittling began, but it is known that whittling was used to create necessary things, such as tools and household items. When this was done, whittling was done as a hobby, to produce decorations, and also to entertain.

Furniture and utensils were created from whittling, as were toys and chests. Once towns starting springing up, shops opened where people were able to purchase what they once had to create.

As the need to whittle became less and less, so did its popularity as a hobby. Only a few people continued to whittle furniture and decorations.

Today, whittling is again very popular. It combines relaxation with hard work, and delivers a rewarding end product. People are looking to do more than just sit at their computers and TVs and many are turning to whittling as an alternative pastime.

WHITTTLING BASICS

Before getting started on the first project, take some time to familiarize yourself with the basics of knife safety. Remember, the knife is extremely sharp and one must handle it in the correct manner. Below are the basic cuts you will need to learn in order to start whittling.

The first thing you should do is make sure your knife blade is sharp. You can actually cut yourself more easily with a dull blade than a sharp one.

For extra protection we strongly recommend wearing safety glasses and a glove when whittling.

BASIC CUTS

All cuts should be either with the grain of the wood or across it.

NEVER CUT AGAINST THE WOOD GRAIN.

NOTE: The following is based on holding the block of wood in one hand, with your elbow tight up against your body and the other hand holding the knife with your elbow tight up against your body. The diagrams provided will help to guide you through the basic cuts listed.

CUT #1. PARING or PULL CUT

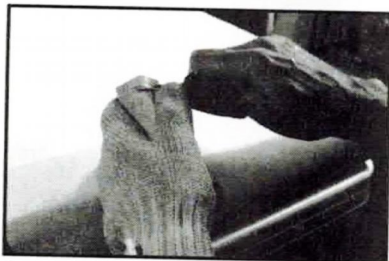
This cut will help you learn to have very good knife control and is also very useful in carving fine details.

Hold the knife with the thumb braced against the wood while the sharp edge of the blade is drawn to the thumb by the pressure applied by the closing motion of the fingers. Open the closed fist and make another cut by again closing your fist. Keep repeating to create fine and controlled details.



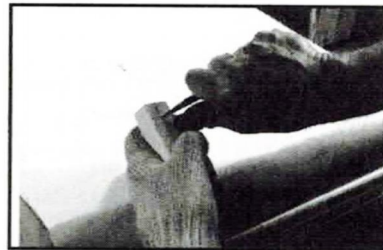
CUT #2. BASIC PUSH CUT

The second cut, the basic push cut, is made by placing the opposite thumb on the back of the blade, which is facing AWAY from you. Push the blade into the wood with the main pressure coming from the thumb while the hand holding the knife guides the blade along, then up and out, removing a small piece of wood.



CUT #3. SCORE CUT

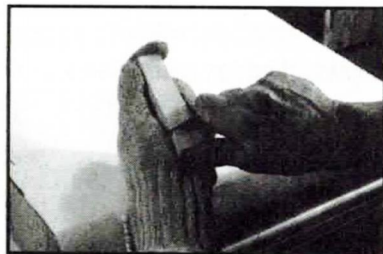
The score cut is done by holding the knife vertically and leaning back at approximately a 45 degree angle. With your thumb on the wood, push the knife tip into the wood (not deeply). Draw the knife



back with just the backward motion created by closing your fist, leaving the thumb in place. To make the cut longer, move your hand back, leaving the knife blade tip in the wood and reanchor your thumb and draw the blade back. Repeat as many times as needed.

CUT#4. STOP CUT

This cut is created by first making a SCORE CUT, then laying the knife blade down at approximately a 45° angle to the wood and the sharp edge of the blade facing you. With the thumb anchored on the wood, insert the tip of blade into the far end of the SCORE CUT and draw the knife carefully towards you by again opening and closing your fist. If done properly, a small wedge of wood should pop out.



CUT #5. V or NOTCH CUT

This is done by first making a SCORE CUT, then the STOP CUT. When a small wedge of wood pops out, reverse the block of wood in your hand and repeat the STOP CUT. Another wedge of wood should pop out leaving you a "V" or notch in the wood. (see diagrams to right)



These five basic cuts will prepare you for your first whittling project. Review them as many times as needed until you feel comfortable with the knife and wood.



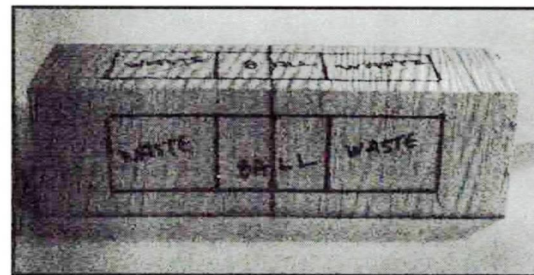
YOUR FIRST WHITTILING PROJECT!

BALL IN A CAGE

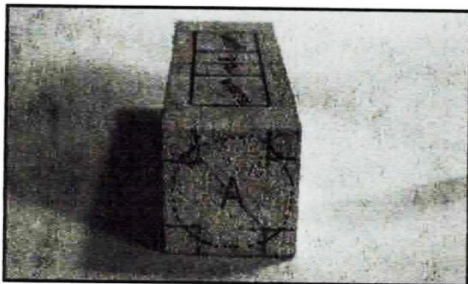
Remember—make sure to handle the knife in a proper, careful manner when cutting. Review knife safety before beginning.

You've reviewed knife safety and basic cuts and are now prepared for your first project – the ball in a cage! Follow the steps precisely, using the diagrams provided to guide you. Good luck, be safe and have fun!

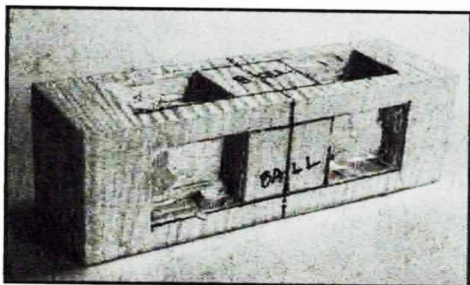
1. On your 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 5" block of Basswood lay out the pattern on all 4 sides in pencil. Find and mark the center line of the block (2 1/2 inches). See diagram below.



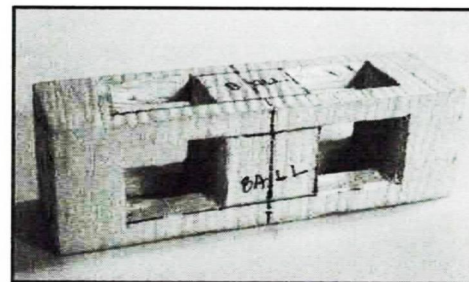
2. On both ends of the block, lay out the $\frac{1}{4}$ " square of the end view of the cage bars. See diagram below.



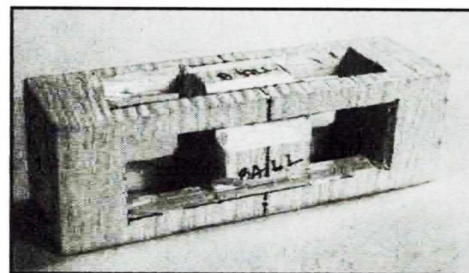
3. Measure the diagonal line "A" ($1\frac{3}{8}$ "). This is the maximum diameter of the ball that will fit the cage. Measure half of the "A" ($\frac{9}{16}$ ") and lay out this dimension on each side of the centerline and mark it all around the block within the cage bars.



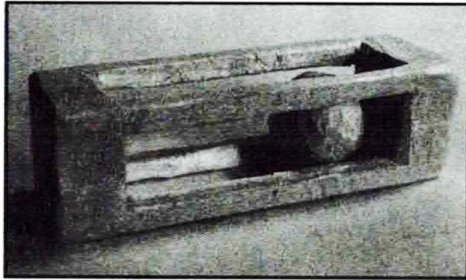
4. Begin whittling by creating stop cuts on all lines of the piece. Sink your knife straight down deep (an $\frac{1}{8}$ " or so) and then take out all wedges of wood until the bars are separated.



5. Continue to remove all the waste wood.



6. Start rounding up the ball by whittling away at the edges until it's free from the cage bars and can slide back and forth.



7. Continue around the ball until it's smooth and round. Clean up the inside of the cage bars keeping in mind NOT to make them so narrow that the ball may fall out.
8. Put on any finish (stain, paint, leave natural) if you wish.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Schrade would like to extend many thanks to Larry "SPI" Spinak who contributed to our manual. For more whittling projects and information on whittling and Larry Spinak, please visit his website at www.whittling.com. Special thanks to Roberta Hanks for the whittling photos.

Thank you!